ELM-Free, Sawtooth-Free H–Mode Discharges on DIII–D with Density and Impurity Control

by

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Sawtooth-free H-mode Discharges on DIII-D with Density and Impurity Control¹ K.H. BURRELL, C.M. GREEN-FIELD, C. ROST, M.R. WADE, W.P. WEST, DIII-D National Tokamak Program — By utilizing cyropumping to control the edge plasma density, ELM-free and sawtooth-free H-mode plasmas have been produced using neutral beam counter-injection in single-null divertor plasmas in DIII–D. Unlike most ELM-free discharges, these shots exhibit density, impurity, and radiated power levels which are constant in time throughout the ELM-free phase. This ELM-free and sawtooth-free state has lasted for up to 2500 ms, limited only by the neutral beam durations chosen. A critical input power above about 7.5 MW and critical line averaged density below about $3 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$ are required to reach this state. The presence of substantial edge pedestals in electron density and temperature and in ion temperature and rotation clearly indicates that these discharges are in H-mode. The confinement in these shots is at the standard H-mode level; relative to the ITER89P scaling, normalized confinement (H-factor) values are 1.8 to 2.4 depending on the neutral beam power used. The H-factor increases with increasing neutral beam power. At the highest power attempted, 12 MW, the normalized beta was 2.4.

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Prefer Oral Session Prefer Poster Session K.H. Burrell burrell@gav.gat.com General Atomics

Special instructions: DIII-D Contributed Oral Session, immediately following M Murakami

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ELM-FREE, SAWTOOTH-FREE, STEADY-STATE H-MODE

- Steady-state H–mode plasmas without sawteeth or ELMs have been produced in single-null divertor discharges in DIII–D
- Key conditions were: (1) counter-injection, (2) cryopumping to lower the density (≤3 × 10¹⁹ m⁻³), (3) beam power ≥7.5 MW at 2.0 T
- Even without ELMs, these shots had constant density, constant impurity levels and constant radiated power fraction (≤35%) for up to 2.5 seconds, limited only by the beam duration chosen
- Shots are H–mode as shown by the edge pedestals and confinement quality
 - H_{89P} from 1.8 to 2.4, increasing with P_{beam} from 7.5 to 12 MW
 - β_N values up to 2.4
 - Highest power shots run into beta limit and disrupt

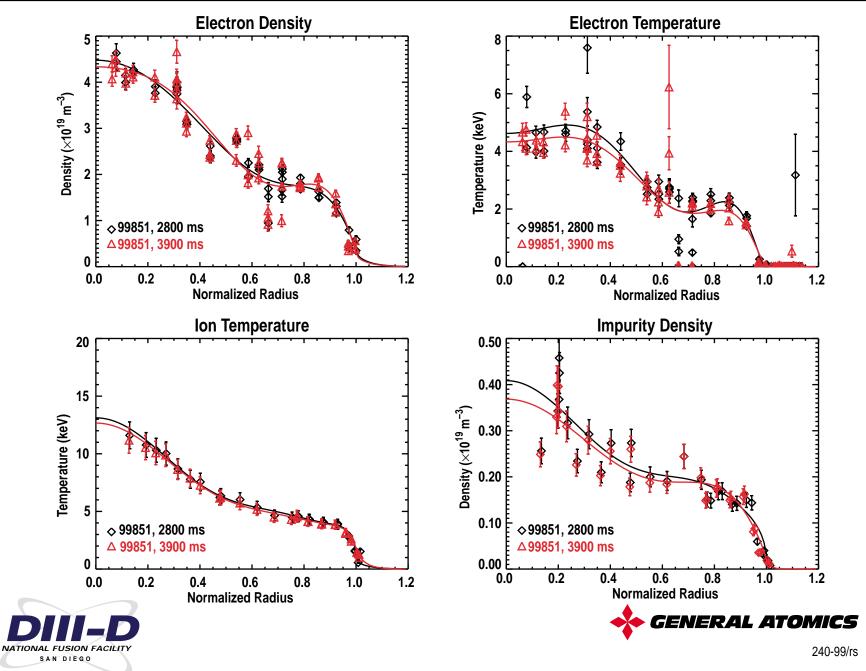


ELM-FREE, SAWTOOTH-FREE, STEADY-STATE H–MODE (Continued)

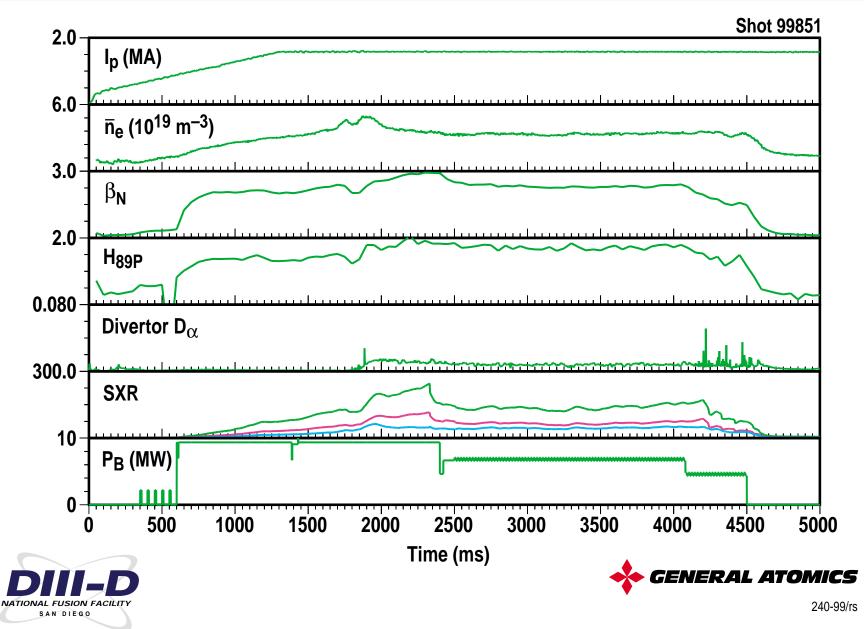
- Significant coherent edge MHD activity may provide the particle transport needed for steady-state operation
 - This MHD has multiple, coherently coupled toroidal modes $(1 \le n \le 9)$
 - Divertor D_{α} level increases when this suite of modes starts
 - May be saturated ELM precursors
- If we can find out how to produce these shots under reactor-relevant conditions, they would be a reactor designer's dream
 - H–mode confinement quality
 - No pulsed divertor heat load from giant ELMs



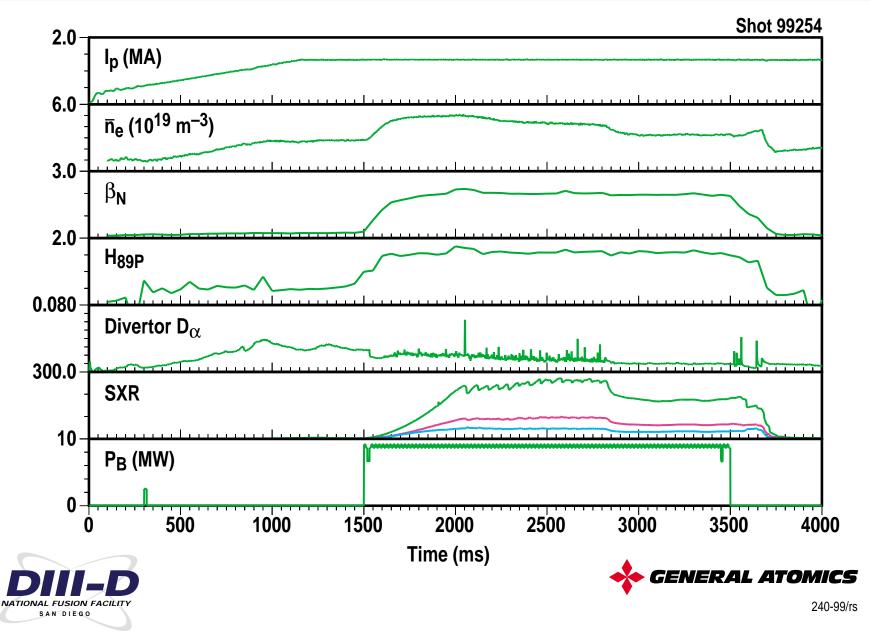
STEADY-STATE, ELM-FREE, SAWTOOTH-FREE H-MODE



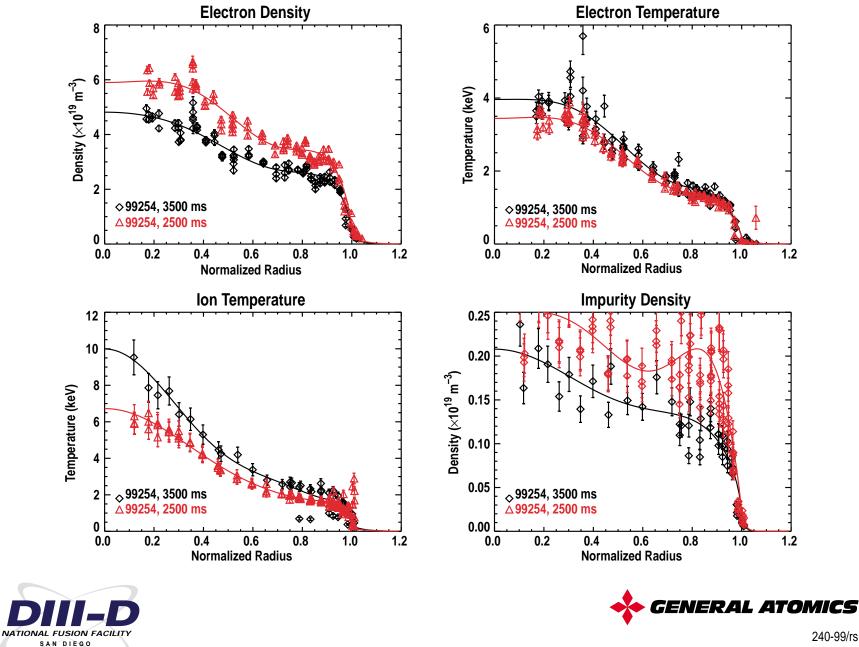
STEADY-STATE, ELM-FREE, SAWTOOTH-FREE SHOT WITH DENSITY CONTROL



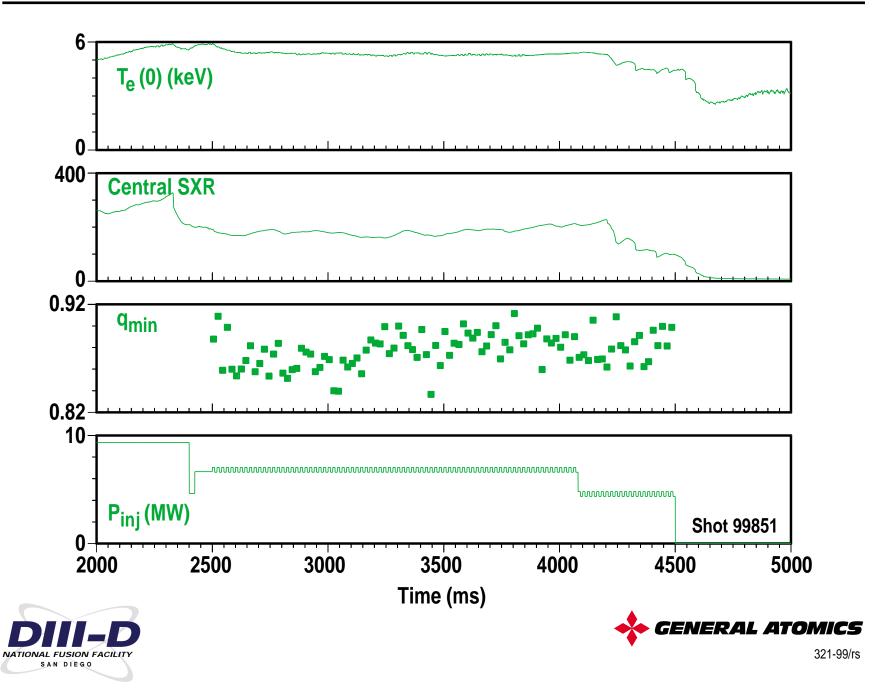
ELMs AND SAWTEETH SUPPRESSED AFTER CRYOPUMPING REDUCES DENSITY



EDGE PEDESTAL DEMONSTRATES ELM-FREE TIME IS H-MODE



STEADY-STATE, SAWTOOTH FREE SHOT WITH $q_{min} < 1$



CARBON IMPURITY LEVEL AND RADIATED POWER DO NOT INCREASE IN ELM-FREE PHASE

